

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) A method of forming a plastics material product including providing a plastics material member being a film web, fibre or filament and cold stretching said member at atmospheric temperature biaxially beyond its yield point to decrease its thickness and increase its length, and partially relaxing in a longitudinal stretching direction said stretched plastics material member substantially uniformly across its cross-section transverse to [[a]] the longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of its total stretched length, and also relaxing said member transverse to said longitudinal stretching direction, to form said product whereby the plastics material member achieves either or both:

(i) an improved resistance, which is uniform across the plastics material member's transverse width, to degradation from UV light radiation, and

(ii) an improved resistance, which is uniform across the plastics material member's transverse width, to oxygen or other gas transmissivity.

3-4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein said stretched plastics material member is relaxed by at least 10% of its total stretched length.

6. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein after said partial relaxation, said plastics material member is fixed at said length whereby further relaxation is prevented.

7. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein said fixing of the length of said plastics material member is through a process such as an annealing process.

8. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 2, wherein said plastics material member is a film web and said film is laminated with at least one other film of plastics or other material.

9. (currently amended) A plastics material member having a decreased oxygen permeability uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said plastics material member, said plastics material member being a film, fibre or filament, and being biaxially cold stretched at atmospheric temperature beyond its yield point to decrease its thickness and increase its length, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, and said plastics material member being partially relaxed in said transverse direction and also substantially uniformly across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of the plastics materials member's total stretched length.

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A plastics material member having an increased resistance to UV degradation uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said plastics material member, said plastics material member being a film, fibre or filament, and being biaxially stretched at atmospheric temperature beyond its yield point to decrease its thickness and increase its length, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, and said plastics material member being partially relaxed in said transverse direction and also substantially uniformly across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of the plastics material member's total stretched length.

12. (previously presented) A plastics material member according to Claim 9 or Claim 11, wherein the stretched plastics material member is relaxed by at least 10% of its total stretched length.

13-14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A method of wrapping a material, object or objects, to create an anaerobic atmosphere within a wrapping envelope, said method including providing a relaxed plastics material film with a decreased oxygen permeability uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said film, said film being cold pre-stretched at atmospheric temperature biaxially beyond its yield point to increase its length and decrease its thickness, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, and said film being relaxed in the transverse direction and also substantially uniformly relaxed across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of said plastic material film's total stretched length, and applying said plastics material film to be wrapped in at least one layer with at least sufficient applied further tension to form said wrapping envelope with an anaerobic atmosphere therewithin.

16. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 15, wherein the object is a bale of silage making material.

17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A method of making silage, including providing a bale of silage making material, forming a wrapping envelope about said bale utilising a partially relaxed plastics material film with a decreased oxygen permeability uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said film, said film being cold pre-stretched at atmospheric temperature biaxially beyond its yield point to increase its length and decrease its thickness, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, and said film being relaxed in the transverse direction and also substantially uniformly relaxed across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of said film's total stretched length, and applying said plastics material film to be wrapped in at least one overlapping layer to form said wrapping envelope with an anaerobic atmosphere therewithin.

19. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 18, wherein the plastics material film is applied to said bale with at least sufficient tension to form said wrapping envelope with an anaerobic atmosphere therewithin.

20. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 19, wherein said plastics material film undergoes a secondary stretch in said longitudinal direction after being at least partially relaxed, and thereafter applying said plastics material film to be wrapped in at least one layer about said bale to form said wrapping envelope with an anaerobic atmosphere therewithin.

21. (original) A method according to Claim 20, wherein said secondary stretch occurs prior to the film being applied to said bale.

22. (original) A method according to Claim 20, wherein said secondary stretch occurs as the film is applied to said bale.

23. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 20, wherein the secondary stretch is beyond the level of the initial stretching of said film in the longitudinal direction.

24. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 20, wherein the secondary stretch is less than the level of the initial stretching of said film in the longitudinal direction.

25. (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A plastics material film that has a decreased oxygen permeability uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said film, that is for forming an anaerobic wrapping envelope, and that has first been cold stretched at atmospheric temperature biaxially beyond its yield point to increase its length and reduce its thickness, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, and said film being partially relaxed in said transverse direction and also substantially uniformly across the transverse cross-

section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of said film's total stretched length.

27. (currently amended) An anaerobic wrapping envelope including at least one layer of overlapping plastics material film having a decreased oxygen permeability uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said film, said film having been cold stretched at atmospheric temperature biaxially beyond its yield point to increase its length and reduce its thickness, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, and said film being partially relaxed in said transverse direction and also substantially uniformly across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of said film's total stretched length before being configured to form said anaerobic wrapping envelope.

28. (cancelled)

29. (previously presented) A method according to claim 2 wherein said biaxial stretching occurs simultaneously in two perpendicular directions.

30. (previously presented) A method according to claim 2 wherein said biaxial stretching occurs sequentially in two perpendicular directions.

31. (currently amended) A method of making silage, including providing a bale of silage making material, providing a plastics material film having a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction, said film having been uniformly cold pre-stretched at atmospheric temperature in the longitudinal direction beyond the film's yield point to increase the film's length and decrease the film's thickness, the film being relaxed in the transverse direction and also substantially relaxed across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal direction by between 5 and 20% of said film's total pre-stretched length, forming a wrapping envelope about said bale utilising said pre-stretched and partially relaxed film by wrapping said plastics film about said bale while exerting a secondary stretch in the longitudinal direction of said plastics

film to further increase the film's length and decrease the film's thickness such that said plastics film is arranged in at least one overlapping layer to form said wrapping envelope and exhibits both a decreased oxygen permeability across the plastics film transverse width and an improved resistance to degradation from UV light radiation uniformly across the plastics film transverse width.

32. (previously presented) A method according to claim 31 wherein the secondary stretch imparts up to 40% elongation in the longitudinal direction of the plastics material film.

33. (previously presented) A method according to claim 32 wherein after the secondary stretch, the plastics material film undergoes a secondary relaxation.

34. (previously presented) A method according to claim 33 wherein the secondary relaxation step relaxes the film up to 10% of its total stretched length.

35. (currently amended) A plastics material film having a decreased oxygen permeability and an increased resistance to degradation from UV radiation uniformly across a transverse cross-section of said plastics material film, said plastics material film having been cold stretched at atmospheric temperature uniformly across said transverse cross-section beyond its yield point to decrease its thickness and increase its length, the transverse cross-section being transverse to a longitudinal stretching direction, the plastics material film being partially relaxed in the transverse direction and also partially relaxed substantially uniformly across the transverse cross-section in said longitudinal stretching direction by between 5 and 20% of the plastics material film's total stretched length, and the plastics material film being further stretched uniformly across the transverse cross-section beyond its yield point to further decrease its thickness and increase its length.

36. (previously presented) A plastics material film according to claim 35 wherein said plastics material film is partially relaxed substantially uniformly across the transverse cross-section after said further stretching.